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REMARKS

Thorough examination and careful review of the application by the Examiner is noted and appreciated.

Claims 1-6, 13-15 and 17 are pending in the application. The gracious allowance of claims 14, 15 and 17 by the Examiner is further acknowledged and appreciated. The indication by the Examiner that claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is further noted and appreciated. Claims 1-6 stand rejected.

Claims 13 and 18-20 have been cancelled and withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Kawamura et al Publ. No. '570.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to further incorporate the limitations contained in claim 13, i.e. "wherein the housing comprises a quartz tube for a semiconductor fabrication rapid thermal process". Claim 13, which was indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten into independent form, has been cancelled and withdrawn from further consideration.

The applicants respectfully submit that the newly amended independent claim 1, which incorporates the limitations contained in claim 13, is now in condition for allowance. The applicants further submit that claims 2-6, which depend on claim 1, are likewise allowable. A reconsideration for allowance of these claims is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

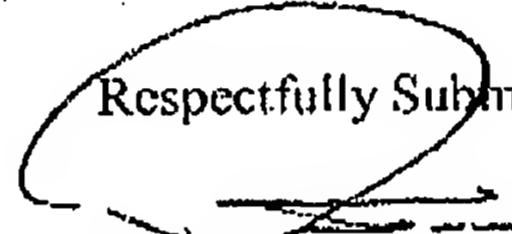
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Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims, i.e. claims 1-6, are now in condition for allowance. Such favorable action by the Examiner, together with the passage to issuance of allowed claims 14, 15 and 17, is respectfully solicited from the Examiner.

In the event that the present invention is not in a condition for allowance for any other reasons, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at his Bloomfield Hills, Michigan office at (248) 540-4040 such that necessary action may be taken to place the application in a condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,


Randy Tung (31,311)